

THE OHIO DEMOCRAT.

"QUI LIBERTAS, IBI PATRIA."—Cicero.—"Where liberty dwells, there is my Country."

BY MITCHENER & MATHEWS.

NEW PHILADELPHIA, OHIO, THURSDAY EVENING, AUGUST 12, 1841.

VOL. 2 NO. 30. WHOLE NO. 82

POETRY.

From the Weekly Messenger.

THE EAGLE.

I love the grey-eyed eagle—as he spreads his brawny wings,
And forth upon the pathless air so loftily he springs;
I love to watch his onward way—to gaze upon his flight
To view him in the distant clouds, a dim and formless sight.
I love the grey-eyed eagle—for he's fearless, bold and free,
He gazes on the glittering sun, he soars beyond the sea;
His nest is on the craggy steep, where foot can never tread,
His eye is like the lightning flash, his wing the dark sky spread.
I love the grey-eyed eagle—and I love to see him soar,
And brave the angry elements, as round him loud they roar:
I love to see his pinions, as he spreads them to the wind,
The wide world is his dwelling place, his path is unconfin'd.
I love the grey-eyed eagle—and like him could I fly,
Would leave this "little spot call'd earth" and seek the distant sky;
For there are center'd all my hopes, and there among the blest,
I trust at length, when life is o'er to find eternal rest.
L. E.

A TRUE SKETCH.

A short winter day was just drawing to a close, as a young and poorly clad girl reached the door of a splendid mansion in B. street. The servant ushered her into a large and elegant apartment, where sat Mrs. M., the mistress of so much wealth and grandeur, in conversation with a friend. The young girl stood a moment, then curtsied, and presented to Mrs. M. a small bundle, saying, "I hope the work will suit you, ma'am."

"The work is well enough," said Mrs. M., examining it carefully, "but why did you not bring it before? It is at least a week past the time it was promised. Unless you are more punctual, and keep your word better, I cannot let you have any more work."

It was growing dark, and the room was not yet lighted, so that the tears that gathered in the girl's eyes could not be seen, but her voice was very tremulous as she answered:

"I did not mean to break my word, ma'am, but my mother has been much worse, and my little brother, in chopping wood, cut his foot, so I have had"—here her voice became inarticulate, and she hastened out of the room.

"That is always the way with these people," said Mrs. M., "a sick mother, or a sick aunt, or a cut foot—any thing for an excuse." Meantime Mary reached the humble dwelling she called home. Whether her feelings were laboring under the wound so thoughtlessly inflicted, or her mother's illness distressed her, or her heart sickened at the thought of helpless poverty, or it might have been the contrast between the room she had left and the one she had just entered, which forced itself upon her; whatever was the cause, contrary to her usual serenity and care to appear as cheerful as possible before her mother, she covered her face with her hands, and leaning upon the rude table before her, burst into a passion of tears. It was but for a moment, for a faint voice from the bed called, "Mary." She started from her posture of grief, and went to her mother's bed side. "Mary, dear, wipe your eyes and sit down by me here, and read the thirty fourth Psalm; it will do us both good." Mary reached down from the shelf the well worn Bible, and seated at the foot of her mother's bed, in a subdued voice read aloud. She had just finished reading the verse, "Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the Lord delivereth them all," when a gentle tap was heard at the door. A little girl, some years younger than Mary, opened it, and a lady entered.

"Is this where Mary Morris lives?"

Mary started from her bed, "That is my name, ma'am."

"Ah yes, you are the one I just saw at Mrs. M.'s I enquired of you, and am come to see if I can be of any service to you; how is your mother?"

The last tallow candle was dimly burning beside the bed where Mary had been reading. The lady went towards it, and took the hand of the emaciated sufferer.

"Have you any physician?"

"No ma'am. My poor husband's sickness cost me so much, that I have now nothing left to pay one. I hope I shall get better in a few days and then all will go on well; but now it is very hard for poor Mary."

"But you have a high fever and should be attended to; my husband is a physician; he will call and prescribe for you; and here are some provisions for your children; and, Mary, just open the door, my servant has brought you a wheelbarrow load of wood already split; give all your attention to your mother, and you shall be provided for."

Their hearts were too full for expression of thanks, but the lady needed them not to convince her that there was no luxury like that of doing good. There were tears shed in that humble room that night, not of bitterness, and there were thanksgivings that would put to shame the feeble gratitude of thousands that are rendered with good and have need of nothing.

Mrs. M. went that night to witness the performance of a popular tragedy, and was so overcome by the hero and heroine, as to be unable to attend to any thing else for several days.

There is the sepulchre of a living man.

THE LOAN OF TWELVE MILLIONS. SPEECH

OF MR BENTON OF MISSOURI.

In Senate, July 19, 1841.—On the bill authorizing a loan of twelve millions of dollars.

Mr. Benton expressed his satisfaction at having an opportunity of speaking to-day, with in the usual hour of business, instead of speaking after dark on Saturday night last. He would have spoken that night, if driven to it; he had held himself in reserve all day, waiting the turn things might take in the evening, and preserving his strength for the occasion, if the exigency should demand an exertion at the close of the day. He had not asked delay, but some of those who acted with him, and who had been in action all day, did ask it and were refused. A second application was successful; and if it had not been, he intended to say to his exhausted friends, "Go and get your dinners; take some refreshment; stay as long as you please—I am going to take the floor—I have been reserving myself for this exigency. I am fresh and vigorous, and when you come back you will find me on my feet." This is what he would have said and done if the debate had been continued, but happily, the second motion for an adjournment prevailed, and the privilege of speaking in the day time, and within the accustomed hours of business, was thus obtained for himself and friends.

Mr. B. said, that notwithstanding the lesson he had learned from a little French comedy, beginning with the moving application, "who will deliver us from the Greeks and the Romans," notwithstanding that lesson, he felt himself justified, under this particular Administration, to refer to these old friends of his school-day memory, and mention an incident which was a characteristic of one of them, and which commentators have considered as one of the main causes of their invincibility. He spoke of the Romans, and of the Senatorial vote of thanks to the surviving Consul after the battle of Cannæ, because he had not despaired of the Republic. This vote prevented despair in others; rekindled confidence, and led to victory. This, Mr. B. said, was the incident in the history of his old friends, the Romans, which he now took leave to recall to the recollection of the Senate. And now for the application of this historical incident. The application was to the American Democracy, who had suffered a sort of Cannæ defeat last fall, but who did not despair of the Republic, and are already on the high road to victory! We were called here, said Mr. B.—called to this extraordinary session—as the vanquished would be called into the presence of the conqueror in barbarian times—to receive the law and the lash, and to be stripped of their clothes and farms. We were called up to have the yoke fitted on our necks, and the chains and manacles fastened on our hands and feet, and to see our friends persecuted, and our country pillaged by corporations, natives and foreigners. We were called, and we came—not as slaves, but as Romans! not in despair, but with hearts of courage, and nerves of iron not so to the place of punishment and humiliation, but as to the field of glory and victory! I crossed the Mississippi, on the 15th of May, in obedience to the President's proclamation to repair to this city, and I made, what I felt to be a triumphal march to this capital! I looked at others, not myself. I looked to the proud array of Democracy on this floor; I looked to the 21 Democratic Senators here; (for I leave out myself,) and I said of them, as Louis the 14th said of himself, when all Europe was in arms against him, *NEO PLURIBUS IMPARI*! Not an unequal match for numbers! Not a full match for superior numbers! And so they have shown themselves to be. If I have some experience in parliamentary warfare; I have some knowledge of history; I know some thing of the conflicts, bodily and intellectually of my species; and I can boldly say, that the annals of the human race present no example of a talent, of a patriotism, of a courage, of a devotedness, in any deliberative body of men that has ever existed, which is superior to that which we have seen in the 21 Democratic Senators who sustain the cause of their country at this most ominous and extraordinary session of our Congress. The annals of intellectual warfare present no example of mental effort superior to their protracted, victorious, and magnificent debate.

Proceeding to the examination of his subject, Mr. B. said: We have now advanced a distance, and reached a point, at which we may halt—look back, and survey the ground over which we have passed. We are now in the second quarter of the new Administration, and in the second month of its first session of Congress; and enough has been done, to show what it is, and what it will be. The tree is known by its fruit; and we now have fruit enough, or buds and blossoms enough, to show us what manner of tree this new Administration is; to what genus it belongs, and for what it is good; and I believe it will be found, upon the view of its fruit and buds, to be of that prolific and poisonous species which the naturalists call the bohan upon.

We were told shortly before the termination of the last session of Congress, by a gentleman, then a member of this body, now a member of the new Cabinet, (Mr. Webster,) that a new set of books were to be opened at the Treasury after the 4th day of March; that the new Administration would take a new point of departure; and for the purpose of discriminating between economy and extravagance, they would close up the old books of the two past Administrations, and open a new set upon their

own account, for the transactions of the new powers. This is what we were told, and now let us take a peep in these new books, and see the entries which have been made, or proposed to be made in them.

It will be recollected that the past Administration was charged with expending forty millions of dollars per annum for the expenses of Government; and the new Administration were to defray the expenses of the same Government with the one third part of this sum, namely, thirteen millions of dollars. I will not stop to vindicate the past Administration from the injurious imputation of expending forty millions in defraying the expenses of the Government; that task was performed above a year ago in this chamber, and to the conviction of all present; friends and foes. It was then proved by a document from the Treasury Department, the verity of which no member could impeach, that, of these imputed forty millions, above twenty of them went to the great object of freeing the Southern and Western States from the incumbrance of their Indian population; holding treaties with them; extinguishing their territorial titles; removing them to the West; maintaining the war in Florida, and to the further object of redeeming Treasury notes; constructing permanent public buildings, and paying over indemnities obtained from foreign countries; and that all which went to the expenses of the Government did not exceed seventeen or eighteen millions of dollars. I will not stop to repeat the proofs then delivered; my business now lies with the gentlemen who were to carry on the Government for thirteen millions per annum, and who came into power a few short months ago upon pledges to that effect. I will see how these gentlemen are redeeming this pledge—I will see how the account stands in the second quarter of the existence of their Administration, and in the second month of the session of their first Congress. For this purpose I will take a view of the moneys and means left by us in their hands on the 4th of March last, and of the amounts raised or attempted to be raised by themselves at the present session, and of the amounts wasted, squandered and given away. I will look into their new books under these three heads, and will use no evidence against them but that which they furnish officially against themselves.

Premising that the present year is only a year of ten months (for we carried on the Government during the first two, and paid all expenses up to the 4th of March) premising this, I proceed to show what I have found in the books against the new administrators under the three heads mentioned, and begin with the amount which we left in their hands. This I find stated in the report upon the finances, made to the two Houses of Congress, at the meeting of the present session, and upon the third page of that report. The amount there stands thus stated:

1. Balance in the Treasury on that day	\$646,803
2. Unissued Treasury notes under old law	413,592
3. Authority to issue new Treasury notes	5,000,000
4. Receipts from customs for ten months	12,000,000
5. Receipts from lands for ten months	2,500,000
6. Receipts from miscellaneous sources	170,000

Amounting to \$50,730,395

Here, sir, are close upon twenty-one millions of dollars to carry on the Government for ten months, by administrators who complained of our extravagance, and promised to exhibit themselves as models of economy. They promised to carry on the Government for thirteen months; we furnished them with twenty-one for ten months; and here we are, before the ten months are half out, called together at an expense of half a million of dollars, to provide additional means. We asked no more to carry on the Government than we left them. We even made an extraordinary provision over and above the funds on hand, and the accruing revenue—a provision of five millions of Treasury notes; the whole for themselves, the issue of which was not even to commence until after they came into power. Upon these supplies we should have gone through the year, if the Democratic Administration had continued, without a shilling more than the twenty-one millions turned over to our successors. This has been asserted and demonstrated to you by the Senator from N. Hampshire, (Mr. Woodbury) late Secretary of the Treasury, and who speaks with the knowledge of experience, and with the authority of a practiced statesman. He has told you repeatedly in those pulverizing speeches in which he has reduced your Secretary's report to dust and ashes, that he would have carried on the Government during the remainder of the year, without calling for an additional dollar, if the Administration of Mr. Van Buren had continued in power. You have all heard his declaration; and I now call upon him to say whether I have mistaken his assertion, or whether time and reflection, or the arguments of his opponents, have induced him to retract, or qualify his important declaration. I pause for a reply.

Mr. Woodbury stood up and reiterated his declaration.

Mr. Benton. Good! I must request the Senator to write down his statement in his own words, and deliver it to me, to be incorporated in my speech. I will put it in the body of the speech. It shall be printed in great letters; they should be of gold letters—large and shining—such a digit long. It shall be printed in staring capitals, that the old farmer; the producing classes; the bees which make the honey, not the drones who eat it—that all the friends of their country, no matter how they voted at the last election—that they, one and all may see and read, and remember forever, this authentic declaration, that Mr.

Van Buren's Administration would have gone through the year, if it had been continued in power, without having required one additional dollar from the people.

Mr. Woodbury handed his statement to Mr. Benton. It was in these words:

"MR. WOODBURY STATES IN REPLY TO THE QUESTION OF MR. BENTON, THAT THE MEANS POSSESSED AND EXPECTED TO ACCRUE, WERE FULLY EQUAL TO ALL THE COMPUTED AND PROPER EXPENDITURES, AND WOULD DEFRAY THE WHOLE IF NO UNFORSEEN ACCIDENT SHOULD INTERVENE."

Sir, said Mr. B. addressing himself to the President of the Senate, we have got you! We hold you in the grips of the hand! When your Secretary of the Treasury sent in his report at the commencement of this session, giving his beggarly account of empty boxes; showing that he had spent what we left him, and calling out for more—I said to myself, as the report was in the course of being read to the Senate, that there was an omission in it—that the Secretary had not told us how much money had been delivered out to disbursing officers and agents, before they needed it; how much was now in their hands, unapplied or unaccounted for; and that the knowledge of this was necessary to enable us to understand how far the present distress of the Treasury is real, or artificial! I said this was necessary to enable us to understand how far the moneys had been delivered out as actually required for the public service, or how far they had been lavished precipitately—faster than they could be used—in order to create a vacuum in the public chest; and thus justify an extra call for Congress to fill it!

These enquiries passed through my mind, and upon the inst. I submitted a resolution calling for the omitted information. The call was in these words:

"Resolved, that the President of the United States be requested to inform the Senate what amount of public money has been placed in the hands of disbursing officers and agents since the 4th of March last; also what amount of public moneys now remain in the hands of disbursing officers and agents unaccounted for, or not reported to have been paid out according to law."

This was submitted on the 5th day of June, and adopted by the Senate, and the answer to it has just come in. It has been delivered this morning, just in time for me to see it before I rose to speak. This answer shows the sum of seven millions of dollars, and a fraction over, to be in the hands of distributing agents or officers, unaccounted for, or not reported to have been paid over. This let the secret out. It showed how the Treasury had been emptied, and what the poor Secretary had been obliged to do in order to furnish an *ex post facto* reason for this pre-ordained extra session of Congress! Sir, I know how a Treasury can be emptied. It is only to deliver out the money in masses to officers and agents before it is needed for the public service; and let it lie in their hands, or in the hands of their friends, or in favorite banks, until until wanted for public payments. In that manner the Treasury can be emptied on any day, no matter how full it may be. In that manner it would have been emptied a dozen times during Mr. Van Buren's administration, if his Secretary of the Treasury had yielded to the importunate demands made upon him. I know what I say; for my duty as a member of the Finance Committee often lead me to converse with the Secretary, and to learn the conditions of the Fisc. The present Secretary says he has less than a million on hand! I say that has often been the case with the late Secretary. He has often been drained down to less than a million, and would have been drained dry if he yielded to the demands upon him for premature supplies; but he fought them off, and kept the money in the Treasury until the public service required it to be paid over to those who had earned it. In this way he saved the Treasury heretofore, and would save it again this summer. I call upon the ex-Secretary to say if I am not correct in all this. [Mr. Woodbury said yes.]

Mr. BENTON. You hear his answer! and in that answer you feel the condemnation of the present Secretary!

Mr. B. here begged the Senate to observe that he had not called for the amount of unaccounted for public moneys for the purpose of imputing defaults to the officers. No such thing. He knew that there was no time yet for the greater part of these new accounts to be settled: his only object was to show what a mass of money was now in the hands of officers and agents, and thereby to show the reason why so little was in the Treasury.

I now proceed, said Mr. Benton, to the second class of entries which I find in these new books, namely, the additional means which the new administrators have provided, or attempted to provide for themselves, and the want of which has been made the putative cause of calling together this most ominous and portentous session of Congress. At the head of these means, not for its amount, (for it is but a trifle in the totality of the sums which I shall have to present,) but for its peculiarity and novelty, I shall place the item which I brought to the notice of the Senate on Saturday last, namely, the loan of a million at a time for six months together, and at six per centum interest, which the Fiscal Bank, by a clause in its charter, is authorized to lend to the Government without any law of Congress to authorize it. I read the clause on Saturday, but will read it again, for it deserves attention for more reasons than one.

Mr. B. took up the charter of the Bank, and read from the 10th fundamental article of what he said, was whimsically called "the Constitution of the Fiscal Bank," a clause in these words:

"No loan shall be made by the said corporation, for the use, or on account of the Government of the United States, to an amount exceeding one million of dollars, nor for any period exceeding one hundred and eighty days, or on account of any particular State, to an amount exceeding one hundred thousand dollars, or for any period exceeding one hundred and eighty days, unless previously authorized by a law of the United States."

Here is authority, resumed Mr. B. for the Administration to borrow and for the Bank to lend, a million at a time, for six months together, and that without further leave or license from Congress; and this little operation in finance is subject to be repeated exactly forty times in twenty years which this bank is proposed to continue. I do not dilate upon the unconstitutionality of this provision: time does not permit. I showed on Saturday that it was a delegation of legislative power to the executive branch of the Government—authorizing the President to borrow money for objects not defined by Congress, and unknown to any appropriation law, and for any purpose that he pleased. Congress has no power to borrow money, not at its pleasure, and for what purposes it pleases, but to pay the debt and to provide for the support of the Government; it has of course the President authorized to borrow, but always named for what purpose, or that it must be for satisfying appropriations made by law. These are the limitations upon the President: he may borrow the million, and repeat the loan forty times in twenty years, for whatever object he pleases. This is what the new bank charter authorizes. I know that this clause is substantially copied from the old bank charter of 1816 where it stood for a half a million of dollars; and I know that clause was copied from one in charter of the Bank of England; where it stood for half a million sterling (two and a half millions of dollars.) I know these instances, but dispute their correctness, and oppose their imitation here. But I drop this argument. My present object is to enumerate the means which this new Administration has raised, or is attempting to raise for itself. In this point of view I limit myself to the enumeration of this strange item, and set it down for a single loan of one million of dollars, and its interest for six months, making \$1,040,000.

I proceed to the next item which I find in these famous new books, namely: the loan bill for twelve millions, which we now have before us, and which was the subject of such extraordinary debate on Friday and Saturday last. I do not repeat the arguments of my friends on that day—I was not in that debate—but all America should learn the character and pretensions of this bill which calls for as much, lacking one million, as the new powers pledged themselves to carry on the Government a whole year upon, and this addition to the means already placed in their hands. The twelve millions in the bill will make thirty-three millions for ten months, which is at the rate of thirty-nine millions per annum; the exact sum which they untruly charged upon us, and which we, most truly, prove upon them! This is a fine commentary upon pledges made before the election, but let us pass on. Large as this item is, it will look small before I am done with the entries which are found in these new books. I proceed with the bill, and do not repeat the arguments against it. I do not reiterate what our friends have demonstrated, namely: that the sum demanded is six millions more than the Secretary of the Treasury has alleged to be necessary in his report; that it is nine millions more than we have proved to be needed, exclusive of the new appropriations which cannot be expended during the year; that, in fact, the principal part of this loan is to supply the place of the land revenue, which is to go, nominally, to the States, but in reality to British capitalists, and also to furnish indirect capital to the new Bank. I repeat none of these things, not even my own motion to defer the borrowing of the two millions, (part and parcel of the twelve,) which is to lie in the Treasury, that is to say, in the Bank, as a reserved fund, to meet contingencies and accidents, which may never happen, and which it will be time enough to borrow money for when they actually occur. I showed on Saturday that it was cheaper and safer for the Government to permit these two millions to remain with the lenders until we need them, which may never be. I offered an amendment to defer the execution of so much of the bill as went to create this reserved fund. My amendment was rejected: all our amendments were rejected. Nothing stuck but our arguments, and they will go to the country, and will prove to the people that Federalism, in 1841, is the same that it was in 1793—an extravagant, wasteful, tax laying, money borrowing, revenue consuming animal; and that to get to taxing the people when they get into power, is just as natural as it is for young ducks to go to swimming, or for old foxes to go to eating chickens. They must tax, and borrow. They cannot help it. The bill will pass. It is for twelve millions, and for three years, the interest six per cent: at first it was for eight years, but the Democratic opposition reduced it to three; which is as long, in all probability, as the Federal party will remain in power. Adding interest to principal, and this loan will be fourteen millions one hundred and sixty thousand dollars. That is the sum which the Government will pay to the lenders; but it is not the sum which the people will pay to the Government on account of the loan. They will pay at least ten per cent more; for the holders of the money must all be paid. The tax gatherers who collect it—those who keep it—those who pay it—all must be paid, and then allowance must be made besides for accidents and losses from defaults. Assume ten per centum for those incidental expenses, and you have one million four hundred thousand dollars